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Admiralty-Office, January 7, 1796.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, have been received at this Office from Rear-Admiral Rainier, commanding His Majeſty's Ships in the Eaſt Indies.

Suffolk, Back Bay, Trincomalé, Auguſt 14, 1795.

AGreeably to the Intimation in my laſt Letter of the 20th Ultimo, by the Royal Admiral, that Ship and Laſcelles have arrived here, therefore take the Opportunity, in Addition thereto, to requeſt you will pleaſe to acquaint their Lordſhips, that the Tranſports having received the Stores and Ammunition, and the Troops embarked, which, owing to the unremitting Exertion and Attendance of Colonel Stuart, the Commanding Officer on this Service, was effected with much Expedition, I ſailed from Madras, with the Centurion and Tranſports, the 21ſt following, having received on Board each of His Majeſty's Ships upwards of 300 European Troops and their Followers, and moſt of the heavy Artillery; Colonel Stuart and his Staff being with me in the Suffolk.

His Majeſty's Ship Reſiſtance, with Four European Flank Companies, a Tranſport, and the Suffolk's Tender, with the Remainder of the Troops and Baggage for the Malacca Expedition, ſailed the ſame Day, and about Eight A. M. parted Company.

On the 23d anchored off Negapatnam, and having ordered the Troops appointed from thence to be immediately embarked on Board His Majeſty's Ship Diomede and the Tranſports there provided, being all Veſſels owned and manned by Natives, left Negapatnam Road the 25th, each of the King's Ships and Two of the beſt ſailing Tranſports having the heavy ſailing Veſſels in Tow. On the 1ſt of Auguſt I anchored in Back Bay with the Centurion, being joined the Day before by Captain Gardner, in His Majeſty's Ship Heroine, from Colombo, with Major Agnew, Deputy Adjutant-General, who had been ſent to the Governor of that Place, the Chief of all the Settlements on Ceylon, with a Letter from Lord Hobart, and Inſtructions for his Conduct, under the joint Authority of Colonel Braithwaite and myſelf, to explain to him His Majeſty's Commands, and the Purpoſe of the Armament. Major Agnew brought, in Return, an Order from the Governor of Ceylon to the Commandant of Trincomalé, to admit 300 of His Majeſty's Troops to garriſon Fort Oſtenburg; to which, when preſented to him, he refuſed Obedience, under a Pretence of Informality in the Order. The latter Part of this Day and greater Part of the following was occupied in receiving and replying to his Remonſtrances relative thereto; which, as they were apparently calculated to evade the great Object of the Expedition, Colonel Stuart and myſelf determined on landing the Troops, and Preparations were making accordingly; but moſt unfortunately, as His Majeſty's Ship Diomede, with her Tow, were working up againſt a ſtrong Land Wind into the Bay, ſhe ſtruck with ſo much Violence on a Rock, lying in Fifteen Fathoms Water, and not delineated in our Charts, between Pigeon Iſland and the outer Point of this Bay, that the Water the Ship made gained ſo faſt on every Exertion of both Seamen and Soldiers at the Pumps, there was barely Time to take the Men out before ſhe foundered, without a Poſſibility of ſaving a ſingle Store of any Conſequence but the Boats. The Employment of all the Boats on this preſſing Occaſion prevented the landing

[Price Four-pence Halfpenny.]

landing the Army till the following Morning, when the firſt Detachment of 530 Europeans and 110 Natives, and Two Field Pieces, landed at the White Rocks, within Elizabeth Point, without Oppoſition, and were followed by the Remainder of European Troops and Natives as faſt as the Boats could convey them. The Boats with the firſt Detachment rendezvouſed on Board the Heroine, who was placed as near the Landing Place as ſhe could anchor in Safety, and, on the Boats puſhing off, preſented her Broadſide to cover them: The Broadſides of the Suffolk and Centurion would alſo have done Execution, had there been any Oppoſition made. In the Courſe of the next Ten Days the Stores and Proviſions were landed with all Expedition, not withont the moſt vigorous Exertions of the Officers and Seamen, the Land Breeze blowing ſtrong all the Time, as it ſtill continues, and keeping up the moſt extraordinary high Surf I ever remember to have ſeen here: The Army had then to move them from the Landing Place to the Camp, a Diſtance of Three or Four Miles, over a very heavy Sand.

Colonel Stuart is making every Effort preparatory to the Attack of the lower Fort: The Dutch have as yet given no Interruption, as if the Commandant waited ſome further Authority, but appear to be hard at Work within. I can ſcarely allow myſelf to think he will be ſo raſh as to riſk a formal Attack, but ſhould that by the Caſe, the Event, from every Conſideration, will, I have little Doubt of, be glorious to His Majeſty's Arms; a ſhort Time will decide. I have the Satisfaction to inform you, Sir, that the utmoſt Hhrmony ſubſiſts between the Officers and Men of both Services, which has much expedited their united Labours.

Suffolk, Back Bay, Trincomalé,
Auguſt 30, 1795.

SIR,

I Have the Pleaſure to acquaint you, for their Lordſhips Information, that the lower Fort and Town of Trincomalé ſurrendered to His Majeſty's Arms the 26th Inſtant, the Eighth Day from the opening of the Trenches, a Work the Enemy moſt unaccountably never interrupted. The grand Battery of 8 Eighteen Pounders and 2 Ten Inch Mortars, from Five to Six Hundred Yards diſtant from the Glacis of the N. W. Baſtion, was ſo judiciouſly planned by Colonel Stuart, and the Work ſo ably executed, as to do amazing Execution from its firſt opening, diſmounting, in the Courſe of the Attack, almoſt every Gun the Enemy could bring to bear upon it.

There were alſo Two Batteries erected to the Right of the Grand Battery, One of 2 Twelve Pounders, the other of 2 Eight Inch Howitzers, that annoyed the Enemy much, and diverted their Attention from the working Parties of the Grand Battery, which was opened on the 23d Inſtant. During the Three firſt Days, the Enemy kept up a very ſmart Fire from all their Works that looked towards our Batteries, but with little Execution, and few Caſualties. The Breach was effected directly over the Sea Gate and Landing Place of the Fort at Back Bay; and when practicable, on the Morning of the 26th, a Summons was ſent by a Drum with the Conditions of Surrender. The Return was an inadmiſſible Demand from the Commandant on the Part of the Garriſon. However, after ſome little Ceremony, he ſurrendered on the Terms offered, with ſome few Explanations; a Copy whereof, with a Liſt of Killed and Wounded, and Return of the Ordnance found in the Garriſon, are herewith incloſed.

In the Courſe of the Operations of the Army, obſerving Colonel Stuart to be ſhort of Men for Working Parties, the Diſtance of the Camp from the Trenches being nearly Two Miles, partly over a heavy Sand, and no Draught Cattle or Vehicle of any Kind to aſſiſt, I preſſed him to accept of the Services of the Seamen of His Majeſty's Ships, who were accordingly landed as required, in Parties of One and Two Hundred, and worked with great Chearfulneſs. A Party of Twenty-ſeven Artillery-Men, who had entered at Madras, their Time being expired, were alſo at Colonel Stuart's Requeſt landed to aſſiſt in the Battery under Mr. William Staines, one of the Midſhipmen of the Suffolk. Three of the Suffolk's Upper Deck Guns were landed to ſupply as many found defective in the Grand Battery from Injury received, and falſe Boring.

Three Hundred Seamen and Marines, under the Command of Captain Smith, late of the Diomede, were alſo under Orders to aſſiſt in ſtorming the Breach, had the Enemy determined to hold out: With the Seamen were Lieutenants Page and Hayward, with Meſſrs. Clarke, Dredge, Jennings, Elliott and Percy, under Captain Smith's Orders for the Seamen, and Lieutenants M'Gibbon and Percival for the Marines; a conſiderable Part of both were ſelected from the Diomede's late Crew.

I beg you will aſſure their Lordſhips that every Service required of the Captains, Officers and Seamen of His Majeſty's Ships under my Command, was executed with amazing Alacrity and Steadineſs, the only Contention being who ſhould be foremoſt on every Service required.

Colonel Stuart and myſelf have ſent all the Priſoners, with a few Exceptions, to Madras, in a Tranſport and Prize, under Convoy of his Majeſty's Ship Heroine; their Number as per Liſt. There appeared ſome Diſpoſition among the Soldiers of the Garriſon to Mutiny after the Summons was delivered, which probably accelerated the Surrender. His Majeſty's Forces were put in Poſſeſſion of the Garriſon that very Evening; the Dutch Troops marched out, and grounded their Arms in the Battery.

Fort Ooſtenburg was ſummoned the Day following; but the Commandant refuſing to ſurrender to the very favourable Terms offered it, Colonel Stuart is making every Preparation for the Attack of it.

Previous to the Surrender of Trincomalé, the Ships and Boats of the Squadron took two ſmall Veſſels laden with Proviſions and Stores for the Garriſon from Columbo, and ſome ſmall Craft belonging to the Port; having alſo found One ſmall Ketch under the Guns of the Fort laden with Rice, the Whole of little Value.

I have the Honour to remain, Sir, your moſt obedient humble Servant,

PETER RAINIER.

WE, the underſigned Officers commanding His Britannick Majeſty's Naval and Land Forces before Trincomalé, ſummon you to ſurrender the Fort under your Command to His Majeſty's Arms. Motives of Humanity alone induce us to make this Propoſal to prevent an unneceſſary Effuſion of Blood. You muſt be ſenſible that the Place is no longer capable of Defence; by an immediate Surrender the Lives and private Property of the Garriſon will be preſerved; but if you reſolve to ſtand a Storm, they muſt prepare to meet their Fate. In this Event we requeſt that the Women and Children of the Garriſon may be immediately ſent out, and a Paſſport will be granted for them to proceed to a Place of Safety. One Hour from the Delivery of this Summons will be allowed you to form your Reſolution, during which Time all Firing ſhall ceaſe on our Part, unleſs provoked by Acts of Hoſtility on your's.

Camp before Trincomalé, Auguſt 26, 1795.

(Signed) PETER RAINIER.
J. STUART.

TERMS of CAPITULATION.

THE Garriſon of Trincomalé, in Conſideration of the Defence they have made, will be allowed to march out of the Fort with the Honours of War, Drums beating and Colours flying to the Glacis, where they will ground their Arms, and ſurrender themſelves Priſoners of War; the Officers keeping their Swords. Private Property will be ſecured to them; but all Public Property, Papers, Guns, Stores and Proviſions of every Kind, muſt be delivered up, in their preſent Condition, to the Officers appointed by us to receive them.

The Garriſon to march out, and the Britiſh Troops to be put in Poſſeſſion of the Fort, in One Hour after this Capitulation is ſigned; and Two Officers of the Garriſon of the Rank of Captain to be delivered immediately as Hoſtages for the Performance of this Agreement. Theſe are the only Terms we the underſigned Officers, commanding His Britannic Majeſty's Forces, can grant. Major Fornbauer, if he accepts the Conditions, will ſign this Paper, and return it by the Officers he ſends as Hoſtages, within Half an Hour from the Time he receives it.

Given under our Hands, in Camp before Trincomalé, this 26th Day of Auguſt, 1795.

(Signed) PETER RAINIER.
J. STUART.

GENTLEMEN,

I Requeſt you will be pleaſed to admit of an Armiſtice of Twenty-four Hours for the Purpoſe of ſettling the Term of the Capitulation, the firſt of which is—"the unmoleſted Departure of the Garriſon by the Way of the *Breach*, with Permiſſion "to retire to Colombo or Jaffanapatam." In the mean Time I have the Honor to remain, with great Reſpect,

GENTLEMEN,
You moſt humble and moſt obedient Servant,
J. G. FORNBAUER.

Trincomalé, Auguſt 26, 1795.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is proper that I ſhould conſult the Officers of the Garriſon reſpecting the Articles of Capitulation, and I ſhall have the Honor of tranſmitting my Anſwer by Two Officers, whom I ſhall ſend to you at Four o'Clock this Afternoon.

I requeſt you will be ſo good as inform me whether the Paper you have addreſſed to me is conſidered as the Capitulation; becauſe, in ſuch Caſe, it will be impoſſible, in the Space of One Hour after its being ſigned, to put His Britannick Majeſty's Troops in Poſſeſſion of the Fort.

I have the Honor to be, with great Reſpect,
GENTLEMEN,
Your moſt humble and moſt obedient Servant,
J. G. FORNBAUER.

Trincomalé, Auguſt 26, 1795.

CAPITULATION, *according to the Terms of which Fort Trincomalé ſhall be ſurrendered to the Troops of His Britannic Majeſty, viz.*

Article I.

THE Garriſon to march out Tomorrow Afternoon at Four o'Clock, by the *Breach*, with the Honours of War, Drums beating and Colours flying. They will lay down their Arms on the Glacis of the Place. All Officers, whether Europeans or Indians, ſhall be allowed to retain their Arms. The Creeſes of the Malays ſhall be packed up and depoſited in a Cheſt, in order to be afterwards delivered to them in caſe of their being ſent back to their own Country, theſe being their perſonal Weapons, which they can never conſent to part with.

Anſwer.—The Garriſon ſhall march out at Sunſet this Evening in the Manner demanded; but the Redoubt, the Cavalier on the Flank of the Breach, and the Zeeberg Baſtion, muſt be immediately given up to the Britiſh Troops. The Creeſes of the Malays ſhall be diſpoſed of in the Manner requeſted; and the whole Officers and Men ſhall be conſidered as Priſoners of War.

Article II.

All Stores and other Effects belonging to the Company ſhall be delivered up to ſuch Perſons as the Commanding Officers of His Britannick Majeſty's Forces may appoint.

Anſwer.—Granted.

Article III.

The European Officers ſhall not be ſent to Europe contrary to their Inclination.

Anſwer.—Granted.

Article IV.

The Private Property of the Garriſon, as well as that belonging to Individuals, ſhall be preſerved to the ſeveral Perſons reſpectively.

Anſwer.—Granted.

Article V.

All Perſons in the Civil Employments of the Company ſhall have Liberty to retire to another Part of the Iſland,

Anſwer.—It is not in the Power of the Officers commanding the Britiſh Forces to grant this Article.

Article VI.

The Sick and Wounded ſhall be treated with all convenient Care and Attention.

Anſwer.—Certainly.

Article VII.

The Garriſon ſhall not be ſubject to Repriſals.

The Commandant requeſts Permiſſion to tranſmit all Papers reſpecting the Siege to the Governors of the Iſland, by an Officer in the Company's Civil Employ.

Anſwer.—Granted.—Copies of the Papers to be ſubmitted to the Britiſh Commanders.

Dated at Fort Trincomalé, the 26th of Auguſt, 1795.
(Signed) *J. G. Fornbauer.*

Signed, by Authority of Commodore Rainier and Colonel Stuart,
P. A. Agnew,
Dep. Adj. Gen.

(Confirmed) *Peter Rainier.*
Ja. Stuart.

A General Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Seamen of His Majeſty's Squadron under my Command, during the Siege of Trincomalé.

Suffolk—2 Seamen wounded.
Centurion—1 Seaman killed, and 2 Ditto wounded.
Heroine—2 Seamen wounded.
Total—1 Seaman killed, and 6 Seamen wounded.

N. B. The Return of Ordnance taken in Trincomalé has already been inſerted in the preceding Gazette.

Suffolk, Back Bay, Trincomalé, Auguſt 31, 1795.

SIR,

FORT Ooſtenburg ſurrendered to His Majeſty's Arms this Morning according to the Capitulation encloſed, which pleaſe make known to their Lordſhips; and I flatter myſelf when 'tis conſidered how much Time and Labour is ſaved, that the Conſtruction of Batteries, and the conſequent Repair of the Works damaged when captured, would neceſſarily have required, the Number of Caſual-

ties